

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2004/002963

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01L1/20 G01L5/22 A61B5/103

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01L A61B G06F B25J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/079549 A1 (ALEXANDER SATHYA R ET AL) 1 May 2003 (2003-05-01) paragraphs '0002!', '0026!' - '0035!', '0042!', '0045!' - '0074!', '0104!' - '0106!; figures 1,7 -----	1-18
X	US 5 445 020 A (ROSENSWEIG RONALD ELLIS) 29 August 1995 (1995-08-29) column 3, line 48 - column 4, line 11 column 7, line 50 - column 8, line 3 column 6, line 61 - column 7, line 19 column 8, line 61 - column 9, line 55 column 13, lines 16-58; figures 2A-D,9 ----- -/--	1-10, 13-18



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

25/10/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Prasse, T

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2004/002963

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 00/73982 A (TACTEX CONTROLS INC ; INKSTER D ROBERT (CA)) 7 December 2000 (2000-12-07) page 1, lines 7-11 page 9, line 9 - page 10, line 26; figures 1,2	10-12
A	US 2002/026838 A1 (ODASHIMA TADASHI) 7 March 2002 (2002-03-07) page 1, right-hand column; figures 1a,1b	10-12

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

PCT/GB2004/002963

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2003079549 A1	01-05-2003	US 2004182164 A1	23-09-2004
US 5445020 A	29-08-1995	US 5396817 A	14-03-1995
		AT 155081 T	15-07-1997
		CA 2137101 A1	03-06-1995
		DE 69404115 D1	14-08-1997
		DE 69404115 T2	02-01-1998
		EP 0656269 A1	07-06-1995
		FI 945666 A	03-06-1995
		JP 7260615 A	13-10-1995
		NO 944647 A	06-06-1995
		AT 231967 T	15-02-2003
		CA 2083737 A1	30-05-1993
		DE 69232908 D1	06-03-2003
		DE 69232908 T2	12-06-2003
		EP 0545641 A2	09-06-1993
		FI 925454 A	30-05-1993
		JP 3314280 B2	12-08-2002
		JP 5248980 A	28-09-1993
		NO 924391 A	01-06-1993
		SG 50641 A1	20-07-1998
WO 0073982 A	07-12-2000	CA 2273113 A1	26-11-2000
		AU 4904300 A	18-12-2000
		WO 0073982 A1	07-12-2000
		US 6788295 B1	07-09-2004
US 2002026838 A1	07-03-2002	JP 2002082005 A	22-03-2002